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THE BIOLOGICAL LABORATORIES

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9 August 1980

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Secretary of State Edmund S. Muskie
State Department
2201 C Street, N. W.
Washington, D. C. 20520

Dear Ed,

It is heartening that you are trying to bring an increased sense of decency and sanity into our foreign relations and operations; and of course pure good fortune that the developments in Poland find us with a Secretary of State of Polish extraction and -- I suspect more important -- one who does not come out of the transnational corporate and banking establishment.

I am writing you now out of a deep concern for what happens to Kim Dae Jung. I visited him at his home in August 1974. He was then under house arrest; and KCIA agents trailed our taxi up to his door.

His first words to me were, "I am suffering from a sciatica brought on by an auto collision that I do not think was accidental, and from an anxiety neurosis." I said that was not surprising: it happened to be the exact anniversary of his kidnapping by the KCIA from a Tokyo hotel. He also expressed chagrin that the protest of the Japanese government was not because of a brutal violation of human rights, but because that act violated Japanese sovereignty.

As we got to the political situation he said very firmly, "Of course I am entirely anti-communist." He said that so definitively as to bother me, since it seemed to close off any possibility of negotiating an eventual reunification with the North. Hence the irony of now accusing Kim Dae Jung of communist leanings and support.

Actually of course he is now on trial as a leader of the movement for democracy, constitutionality and the protections of human rights that the legitimate Korean constitution offered, that were abolished by Park Chung Hee's Yushin Constitution.

There is some talk of my going to Seoul as an observer the end of this month. I doubt that that is possible, or if it happened that I could learn very much. But if it should happen, I will want to let you know beforehand.

With all good wishes,

Sincerely,

George Wald

September address: M. B[illegible], Woods Hole, Mass. 02543 Tel. (617) 548-1748

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The Sins of President Park's Police State

Why Harvard Should Refuse Korean Grants

By George Wald

[illegible] Korea Daily in 1973 Harvard University was given $1 million by the Korean Tribune-Asiatic Institute (KTA) to promote Korean Studies. Chairman of the Board of Directors of the KTA is Dr. Chung Hee Park, president of South Korea, and a professor at Yale University's Yonsei branch is Director. Conservative Republican officers include [illegible] Secretary of State for Far Eastern Affairs under Eisenhower, and Dr. George Ogle, a retired missionary supposed to be the secret political operative being conducted by the Korean Central Intelligence Agency (KCIA). [illegible] "For what can Harvard's relationship to the KTA and through it to the present regime in South Korea mean? Let me say what it means to me.

The present government of South Korea is one of the most brutal, venal and corrupt on earth.

The Chairman Park Chung Hee, known affectionately as a contraction name of particular hatred upon the pitiful descendants of others by North Korea. It may bring a little perspective to this statement to realize that the South has 30 million people to the North's 15 million, a GNP in 1974 of $17.9 billion to the North's approximately $5 billion and annual gross spending $25,000 on the North's $1,000. (International Institute for Strategic Studies, London, 1975-76)

Add to this 41,000 U.S. troops, most of them combat-ready and deployed to defend the state, so can be considered as more as Lay armies. They have at their disposal an estimated 600 to 680 tactical nuclear weapons, such as announced 1,000 men. Lee Sin Pyo, Republic of Korea Embassy Information, Washington, D.C., January 15, 1975). It is an explosive situation. Any one Park, who has a shaky political base, might easily be ready the country by declaring a defensive war, as our own history might decide to start another war in the 1962 crisis mentioned for many days when happened a few months ago. Either way we could be suddenly involved in a conflict that would have no conceivable relation of interesting the lives we are living.

As for the Park regime, one can speak of him as "dictatorial savagery" (Washington Post, March 19, 1976) from the darkest moments of Stalin (Feb. 1976 when an alleged dissident fleeing from Japan tried to assassinate Park during a public rally. The leading office Park's [illegible] who was wounded trying to a hospital while [illegible] emerged from behind a bullet proof shield, were on such his speech. Afterward there was a great anti-Japanese [illegible], and, on September 8, 32 persons [illegible] with Japan's South Korea [illegible] Korean flag to their [illegible] premier Kakuei Tanaka. [illegible] Can these "responses" were overseas who had been released from jail to perform this act. The government had paid them from $125 to $375 per. (Japan Observer, Oct. 14, 1976).

I was in Japan in August 1974 when Park Hyo-bum and three students [illegible] Japanese to deliver a petition to President Park on behalf of the political prisoners in his country signed by 17,000 Japanese. Rev. Paul Lewis, Wm. Sloane, Joseph Needham, [illegible] are going to say—does Harvard presently [illegible] Professor Edwin O. Reischauer, Edward W. Wagner [illegible] Some [illegible] perhaps the most sophisticated in my life, with the Korean CIA [illegible] my friends [illegible] in Japan and [illegible].

In August we were unable to see the great Korean poet Kim Chi Ha, now on jail serving a life sentence. We did meet the extraordinary Mrs. Hahn Sok Hun, the "Pearl of Korea," the only Korean who had the courage to visit us. He is now serving an 8 year jail sentence. Mrs. Hahn Sok Hun, whom we [illegible] 26 per cent in 1971 when the Korean [illegible] a peanut, observes, "The first words to me were, 'I am suffering from a wound brought on by an open confession that I do not know was [illegible], and there was [illegible] necessity.'" I said that was hardly surprising. Exactly one year before he had been tortured by the Korean CIA from a Tokyo hotel, and kept blindfolded and drugged until he finally came to a prepared to confess. He was to arrange an open [illegible] meeting, and he is likely to be put on [illegible] extended term, for he never needed [illegible] confession.

[illegible] were sent to other prisoners were read and commented on and some of them were in [illegible] the leading figures in [illegible] the Restoration of Democracy" as an [illegible] there, as Japan's Korean Catholic Conference [illegible] March 1, 1976 [illegible] prisoners" include former President Yun Po Sun, former Foreign Minister Chung Il Kwon, Kim Dae Jung, his wife Lee Yo Young, the first woman lawyer in South Korea, and some of the most prominent Catholic and Protestant churchmen in Korea.

On April 9, 1975 eight alleged members of the People's Revolutionary Party were hanged. The PRP, so far as known, does not exist, but had been invented by the present chief of the KCIA. Han Sok Hun, who has been under [illegible] pressure from time to time, [illegible] Japanese churchmen, the Rev. George Ogle, a United Methodist and Father James Jackson, a Maryknoll priest in Korea since 1965, were expelled from Korea for attempting to refute the government's charges.

The Poems of Kim Chi Ha

The poet Kim Chi Ha is currently serving a life sentence as a South Korean prisoner. He comes from a very modest, rural Korean environment and consciousness of the pains many Koreans have suffered in South Korean prisons at their President, an active movement to speak on behalf of, and communicate with the oppressed and exploited of the earth by the strong. The two poems printed here, "No Return" and "Goodbye," exemplify both aspects of the remarkably poetic work. "No Return" reveals the personal nightmares of the artist in a public state.

"Goodbye" represents in first as a single poem one hope for the recovery of Korean women forced for the entertainment of and other soldiers in various Japanese prostitution in the Southeast Asian nations as Okinawa.

No Return

I shall not return having once stepped into this place.
If I sleep, it is the sleep which cuts deeply into the flesh—
That sleep, that white room, that bottomless vertigo.
The sound of high leather boots in the night,
The place where they come and go on the ceiling,
Invisible faces, hands, gestures,
That room where voices and laughter arise—
That white room, that bottomless vertigo.
Opening my eyes
With the pain of a fingernail being pulled out,
Crying, my body being torn apart,
My wizened soul alone remaining.
Can I not depart?
In vain,
Comrades who died in vain,
Fallen into humiliating sleep,
Fallen into sleep in vain.
In the past
Sometimes faintly smiling, sometimes crying out—
Those wonderful friends.
Ah, I shall not return, not return.

Goodbye

Goodbye
Don't cry, I'll be back
Crossing white hills, black hills, powder-dry
With heavy steps over the road to Seoul
To sell myself
When will I return
When will I come back blooming with smiles
Without ever having put on the dress that women wear
when they reach twenty
I'll go now
Don't cry, I'll go now
No matter how bad life may get
I'll never forget the snowdrop flowers
or the fragrance of Camelia oil in my hair
They'll stay with me in my dreams
I may return at night crying
With only the stars to guide me
I'm going now
Don't cry, I'm going now
Even the sky hangs heavy with sorrow
Over powder-dry hills
Heavy, heavy I go towards Seoul
To sell myself.

[illegible] Korean women who [illegible] were [illegible] Japanese, Koreans and [illegible] the "First Germany" young women [illegible] good hosts and [illegible] businesses in Japan and Korea. South Korea's economic miracle [illegible] of thousands of Japanese businessmen to Korea on all-expense [illegible] overnights include the sex visit of young Korean women. As prostitutes these women are given [illegible] licenses. The government [illegible] prostitutes to pay over [illegible] their wages are a private matter, providing foreign exchange [illegible] and under the [illegible] These men to Japan are issued passports stamped "Artistic Delegations" by the ROK Ministry of Education. On April 11, 1973 the Minister of Education, Min Kwan-sik, in a speech at a Korean high school in Taipei, praised "the laudable patriotic consciousness of the large number of male Korean tourists [illegible] who have overcome the [illegible] and are inspiring [illegible] good night among their fellow tourists. [illegible] Japan Asia Quarterly Review, Tokyo, April-June, 1976, p. 58. (The [illegible] is at least as shocking in Korea or Japan as here.)

But what Koreans make most of all is cheap labor. [illegible] the minimum wage in South Korea [illegible] 1975, $1.9 per week of 54 hours, [illegible] under 16¢ per month. The official figure for the cost of living for a family of 5 is $60 per month. (Korean Economic Tea Institute.) There "are no strikes in Korea, no enforcement of environmental regulations or workers' health and safety provisions, South Korea is consequently highly attractive to foreign investors and companies. In 1971 its foreign trade accounted for 7% per cent of its GNP, whereas for 1976 we plan a trading [illegible] foreign trade is less than 30 per cent of our GNP.

The "dreaded Korean CIA operates worldwide. It conducts a massive [illegible] of terror at home, and [illegible] and [illegible] kidnapping among Koreans abroad, including those in the U.S. (New York Times, October 30, 1974). The Assembly for [illegible] Reunion for 1975-76 says, "In the Republic of Korea, torture can be said to be employed systematically in order to [illegible]." The KCIA is [illegible] to have [illegible] 50,000 [illegible] 100,000 [illegible] including [illegible] and many of the [illegible] of the South Korean embassy in Washington. We have many books [illegible] Through such programs as Lauren J. Pilger, 1972, that large [illegible] of money are distributed by Korean operatives in the country to cultivate and bribe members of Congress (New York Times, Jan. 9, 1976).

The principal economic exploitation of South Korea is Japanese, but there are also American [illegible] with Gulf Oil. Robert Dorn, the former Chairman of the Board of the Gulf Oil Company testified to a Congressional committee that Gulf had [illegible] $4 million to two of Park's [illegible] of congressmen. Park Tong Sun, who seems to have principally donated the bribery and subversion of American [illegible] officials in Washington, has recently stated Gulf was paying him $1 million a month. Gulf's [illegible] response was that it would not have been that much. Park's family [illegible] Gulf oil products, and even ran an airline [illegible] in South Korea (New York Times, Oct. 31, 1976). It is said to be a different family from President Park's but Park Tong Sun was also [illegible] Park's son. He is a [illegible] of the President, Dae Chang Corporation, [illegible] as the maker of missiles, by investing $150 million in a [illegible] company [illegible] and with $50 million, that also involves Colins and the Korean government (Chemical and Engineering News, Nov. 22, 1976).

The Korean Tribune also [illegible] Harvard $1 million for Han Asian Studies in an [illegible] of the [illegible], with close [illegible] with the Korean CIA. It is said that [illegible] Harvard [illegible] no control over [illegible] to it. The KTA did name a majority [illegible] advisory committee of South Korea and [illegible] from [illegible] Chung Hee Park. [illegible] to establish that [illegible] [illegible] are [illegible].

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George Wald, Higgins Professor of Biology, received a Nobel in Medicine 1967 [illegible] to President Park of South Korea on [illegible] South Korean political prisoners.